THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF POWER (SHRIMATI URMILABEN CHAMANBHAI PATEL): (a) The capacity addition target fixed for the Eighth Five Year Plan is 30537.7 MW, against which, as per the latest assessment of the Central Electricity Authority, 20729.7 MW of new generation capacity is likely to be added during this plan period. While a number of ongoing projects will be completed in the Ninth Plan, the capacity addition programme for the Ninth Plan is yet to be finalised.

(b) The suggestion made by the so-called national Working Group on Power have been duly considered. A primary reason for the shortfall in the capacity addition programme has been the inadequate availability of funds in the Government sector. To overcome it the Government has decided to associate the private sector in the development of the power sector, policy which the Government intends to continue with.

International seat capacity of Private airlines

1037. SHRI AUSTIN: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Union Government propose to allow private airlines to increase their international seat capacity to a great extent; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM (SHRI GHULAM NABI AZAD): (a) and (b) Private airlines have been permitted to operate only on domestic routes. There is no proposal to permit them to operate on international sectors.

Loan to Al-Kabeer by IDBI

1038. SHRI K.R. MALKANI:

Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) how much money IDBI has loaned to Al-Kabeer;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor; and

(c) a complete list of IDBI's clients?

THE MINISTER OF FINANCE (SHRI MANMOHAN SINGH): (a) to (c) In accordance with the practices and usages customary amongst banks and in conformity with provisions of statutes governing public sector banks and financial institutions as also the provisions of Public Financial Institutions (Obligations as to Fidelity and Secrecy) Act, 1983, the information relating to individiual constituents cannot be divulged.

Fraud in Bank of Baroda Overseas

1039. SHRI SUSHILKUMAR SAMBHAJIRAO SHINDE: SHRIMATI VEENA VERMA:

Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Rs. 7,000 million fraud was lately unearthed in the Bank of Baroda Overseas; and

(b) if so, whether a thorough probe has been caused by the Government, into the fraud, as reported in the Asian Age of June 30th 1995 and whether RBI authorities have been found involved in the fraud and what are the findings of the inquiry?

THE MINISTER OF FINANCE (SHRI MANMOHAN SINGH): (a) and (b) A fraud was perpetrated on some Indian Banks including Bank of Baroda by the Letap Group of Companies operating from U.K. As far as a Bank of Baroda is concerned the amount involved was Rs. 25.24 crores. After the fraud came to the banks' notice in 1991-92, they lodged a complaint with the Serious Fraud Office (S.F.O.) of U.K. who have initiated necessary investigation in the matter. Reserve Bank of India, who have looked in the matter referred to in the

news item, have reported that there is no involvement of any RBI officials in the fruad.

Increase in Prices of Polyester Yarn

1040. SHRI E. BALANANDAN: Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state:

(a) the number of texturising and weaving units affected due to steep hike in the prices of polyester yarn, the total number of workers unemployed and the number of factories closed;

(b) whether it is a fact that despite reduction in excise and import duties, the prices of polyester yarn skyrocketed, due to increase in the cost of inputs;

(c) whether Government have worked out the total effect of excise/import duty reduction on raw materials and finished products; and

(d) the estimated rise in the cost of production due to escalation in the prices of raw materials like DMT, PTA, MEG, Paraxylene?

THE MINISTER OF TEXTILES (SHRI G. VENKAT SWAMY): (a) to (d) There has been representation that despite the various concessions given by the Government, there has been increase in the prices of Polyester Yarn on account of increase in raw-material prices. There are about 2000 texturising units in the country and it has been represented that increase in prices has affected capacity utilisation in the texturing sector.

Prices of synthetic fibres/yarns including Polyester Yarn are not dependent only on raw-material prices but also on other factors such as cost structure of indigenous/imported raw-materials, conversion cost, duty structure, demand and supply, etc. However, in the context of increase in prices of these items, Government have asked the Bureau of Industrial Costs and Prices to undertake a study of the present structure of the industry which would cover factors relating to cost and prices.

Import of Power Equipment

1041. SHRI CHIMANBHAI HARIBHAI SHUKLA: Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state:

(a) whether some power equipments have been imported during 1991-92, 1992-93, 1993-94 and 1994-95;

(b) if so, the details thereof alongwith names of countries of import and foreign exchanges spent thereon;

(c) whether there is proposal to produce these equipments in the country;

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

(e) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF POWER (SHRIMATI URMILABEN CHAMANBHAI PATEL): (a) and (b) A wide range of machinery fall under the category of power equipments which is used in Thermal, Hydel, Gas and Nuclear Power Plants. Power Equipments also cover transmission and distribution equipment and other accessories related to power sector. Power equipments are imported by SEBs, industries using captive generation plants as well as the public & private utilities in power sector. The import of power equipments is also covered under bilateral and multilateral aid from various agencies as well as other countries under various funding arrangements. The details of power equipment imported by NHPC, NTPC, POWERGRID and NEEPCO are given in Annexure. (*See* Appendix 174, Annexture No. 31)

(c) to (c) Power equipments particularly in the field of generation, transmission & distribution are manufactured domestically by both public sector undertakings as well as private sector companies. If information pertaining to specific equipments or project is indicated, it would be possible